

Exiles Compile Castroite 'Crime List'

By CARLOS MARTINEZ
Of Our Latin America Staff

Cuban exiles are chalking up a list of crimes committed under Fidel Castro in order to "punish the authors when the time comes."

Six Cuban exile criminal lawyers have set up the Legal Committee to Investigate Crimes in Cuba, under the direction of Dr. Miguel A. Olba Benito, a former law professor in Cuba.

The group has already put the Castro regime on notice. Olba Benito said "some 1,800" letters announcing the formation of the committee have been mailed to government departments in Cuba as a warning.

"The letters tell those who have not stained their hands with blood to abstain from carrying out criminal acts," said Olba Benito. "Such acts would put them on the list."

He said the group is compiling both evidence and charges in order to "prepare the means that one day will allow us to judge and condemn the guilty ones."

Olba Benito added, however, that authority to arrest and try those responsible for crimes "will rest, when the time comes, on the competent departments of the (new government's) information services and military authorities."

The committee already has called on Miami's huge Cuban exile colony to provide "concrete" proofs of crimes and executions being carried out throughout Cuba.

Citing "obedience" or "compulsion" as the motives for their crimes will not relieve the authors of their responsibility, said Olba Benito. He emphasized that jus-

tice would be "neither political nor vindictive."

Considered crimes against the people by the committee are:

"Crimes against peace and humanity, pillage, religious and political persecution, genocide, crimes in enforcing labor, crimes against the Cuban exodus . . . and crimes committed against the prisoners by custodians and prison chiefs."

Olba Benito, who is also secretary general of the Cuban (Exile) Human Rights

Commission, said his group is carrying out its task "inspired by pure humanitarian principles and clean feelings of justice."

"The shaken conscience of the world, and especially of the Western Hemisphere, demands that these criminals and international delinquents be exposed and sanctioned for their crimes against a tortured people," declared Olba Benito.